



# The Clarion

Vol. XXVIII, No. 4

East Brunswick High School, East Brunswick, N.J. 08816

April 1993

## Out-to-lunch policy revised

by Cheryl Weiss

The out-to-lunch policy is being revised for the second semester due to many traffic problems.

According to Principal Charles King, "The number of cars leaving the parking lot at the same time has created such traffic congestion that seniors rarely have more than ten minutes to eat lunch. The traffic congestion creates a safety and fire hazard."

In order to combat this problem, the Board of Education has proposed several alternatives. The most popular proposal involves an alternate day cycle. Seniors whose last names begin with the letters A thru L would be able to go out on days one and four, while seniors whose last name begins with the

letters M thru Z would be able to go out to lunch on days two, three and five. This schedule would be rotated every week.

The Board has also considered other options. At last month's Board meeting, student liaison senior Kenneth Stahl proposed a mandatory car pool rule. If this policy goes into effect, every car going out to lunch must have at least four people in it in order to reduce the traffic.

In addition, the school would hire another crossing guard to help facilitate the flow of traffic.

The Student Council will be holding a meeting in April to discuss these various proposals. All students are encouraged to voice their opinions.

## Senior cut day inexcusable

by Christin Caroselli

Students at EBHS will be required to attend school for an additional day at the end of the year as a result of "Senior Cut Day." If seniors decide to cut again later in the year, another day will be added on as well.

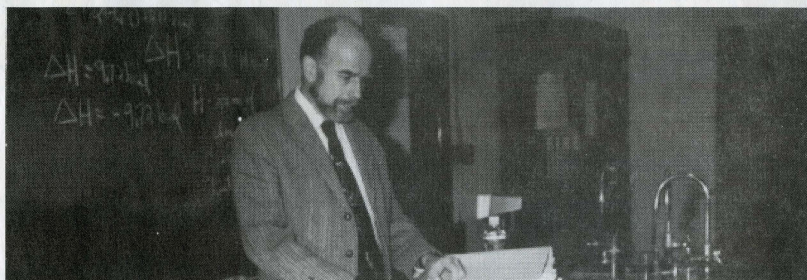
The main reason for the extra day is the large number of students absent on February 8. School policy states that if more than half of the student body is absent, the day will not count. Since most of the senior class was absent, as were some juniors and sophomores, the administration has decided that the day will have to be made up at the end of the year.

School officials are also adding the extra day because "Senior Cut Day" wasted valuable learning

time. Many classes were not held because of a lack of students, and the students who were present were forced to treat many classes as free periods.

The inclusion of an additional day will, in part, serve as a "punishment" for seniors and as an example for underclassmen. "Blatant disrespect of school policy by mass cutting is an embarrassment to the school and will no longer be tolerated," said Principal Charles King.

At the end of the year, a day will be set up specifically as the make-up day. Any senior who receives an unexcused absence on the make-up day will receive a week of summer detention and will have his/her diploma withheld until the detentions are served.



Dr. Kimmel ignores all publicity and continues to prepare his students for the AP test.

Soundhari Balaguru

## Scandal rocks science department

by Manish Nag

At a meeting held on March 25, Board President Dr. David Seiden disclosed to the public that the Ph.D Dr. Paul Kimmel obtained from Berkeley University in 1971 actually does not exist. Students, teachers and parents are simply dumbfounded by the fact that such an esteemed educator could have duped an entire school system for nearly 20 years.

Said A.P. Chemistry student Judy Tsai, "I really can't believe he lied to us about his degree. I mean, he really sounded like he knew what he was talking about. I just don't understand. I just figured he was a smart teacher 'cause I failed his class."

Teachers were equally stunned by the truth about Dr. Kimmel. Said an anonymous member of the Science Department, "We always looked up to him as the one true scientist among us. Now we have nothing to look up to. It's just a crying shame."

Said another science teacher (who was looking for his Stomper cars at the time), "I think it all goes back to Machiavelli and the

Medici family. You didn't happen to see my lunch did you? Anyway, he really was a good man. I say we should keep him even if he did lie. It's just fascinating if he ever tells you about his graduate chemical work. I'm sorry, I don't think I was supposed to say that. Oh well. You got any batteries?"

Dr. Kimmel's early chemical work displays a side of him many are not accustomed to. The thesis, "The effect of Jerry Garcia Improvisations Upon the Rate of Decomposition of the 1-2 phenoloxymethyl-glutamate Complex In a Cannabis Sativa Medium," was the rage among intellectual and artistic circles in the Berkeley area as well as the Haight-Asbury District during the end of the Sixties. Kimmel's work actually united musicians and scientists in an unheralded search for truth. However, Kimmel's thesis was deemed "inappropriate" by Berkeley's science department. Thus, his Ph.D candidacy was declined.

After spending a year in seclusion, Dr. Kimmel began applying for work. On all applications, he

listed his supposed Ph.D. He was a well-known force in his field even while a graduate student. Thus, all institutions took his work without investigating any further. Such was the case with our own school district. Said Superintendent John Kopko, "With the high number of 5's on AP Chemistry who would have thought that he had lied about his Ph.D? Actually does it really matter? So he went through a bit of a hippie phase. We can certainly find it within ourselves to forgive him, considering all he has done for our students."

Many concur with the Superintendent, as parents and teachers have rallied behind Dr. Kimmel to show their support. It seems that due to this support, Dr. Kimmel will maintain his position in EBHS's Science Department. When asked about his reaction to this, Dr. Kimmel declined to comment. He simply stated, "I have no time for reporters. The AP test is in May, there's not a day to lose. Don't talk to me unless you're taking the test."



Point and Counterpoint:  
*STD Prevention*

Gargantuan Gourmet:  
*Jack's Bistro*

Special Feature:  
*Teen Sex at EBHS*

Prom Survey:  
*What's hot & what's not*

## Hat policy repealed

by Susan Kim

After last year's passage of what would become known as the infamous "hat rule," hardly a day has gone by without students complaining of a breach of rights. They have placed the blame on Principal Charles King, claiming that he whimsically institutes unnecessary and unreasonably strict regulations. For those students there is some good news.

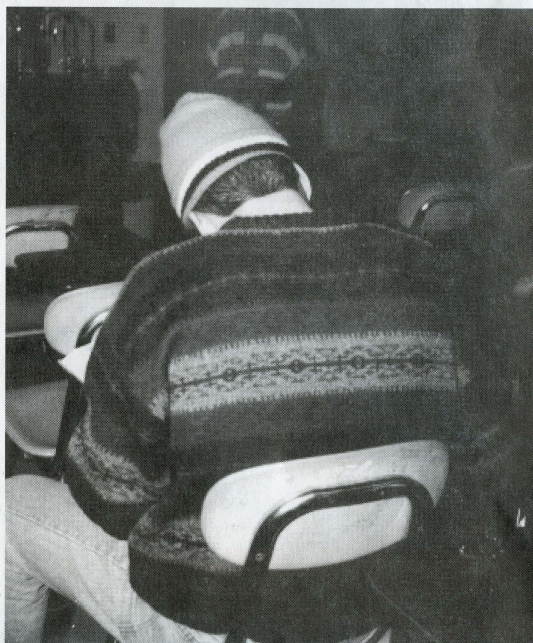
The hat rule has been repealed. Before the festivities begin, though, there is some more news. Students will no longer be allowed to carry backpacks or book bags. Apparently, teachers have been complaining that this extra baggage takes up too much space in our already-crowded hallways. They also claim that they are actually getting hurt by students who recklessly rush down the hallways, shoving their way through crowds, not aware of the "weapon" they carry. Mr. King feels that, forced to carry books in their arms, students will hold them closer to their

bodies, therefore taking up less space. He hopes that this will alleviate some crowding in our halls, perhaps even lessening criticism for the switch to a four-minute passing time.

When questioned, students such as senior Jocelyn So remarked, "Although I agree that EB does have a problem with crowding, I am not sure if eliminating book bags is the solution."

Similarly, junior Jennifer Tan said, "The students in this school are forced to carry too many books to be expected not to use backpacks... I definitely think Mr. King should reconsider this one."

Most students seem to show an apparent dislike of, end even frustration with, this rule. Senior Lori Derr has another solution. "Elsewhere in the world, such as the far East," Lori said, "women carry harvest in large baskets on their heads. Now that we will be allowed to wear hats, perhaps we, too, could try this."



Senior Francisco Alsina sports a hat in reaction to the repeal of the hat rule.

Soundhari Balaguru



## The beats go on... and on... and on

Following a crowd-pleasing rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" at the February 25 girls basketball game, Concert Choir members **Jill Fredericks, Dan Nguyen, Rachna Shah, and Jerome You** were all approached by Jean Rosetti, a talent scout from Major League Baseball. Rosetti asked the group if they would be interested in singing the "Star Spangled Banner" at next year's World Series.

"He just came up to us and explained that his granddaughter was playing for the other basketball team. Then he said that we sounded so good that he'd use his pull to enable us to sing at the Series," said Rachna.

"We are all really happy for them," said Concert Choir Director Dennis Boyle.

\*\*\*\*\*

Academic Team Captain **Manish Nag** auditioned to be on *Jeopardy!* last February, and was informed, during the first week of March, that he has been selected to appear on the show during the annual "High School Week." The show will be taped in May and aired in June.

Said Manish, "Even though *Jeopardy!* questions are tame compared to what we encounter during Academic Team meets, I am really excited."

\*\*\*\*\*

Budding scientist **Zoltan Maliga** synthesized a new preservative he calls "WRZ-32" in his basement. "My parents are both scientists, so we have a lot of chemicals around," he stated. Zoltan modestly explained that WRZ-32 really "is not that special." He is currently trying to get it patented and on the market.

\*\*\*\*\*

On December 16, **Dang Nguyen** received a letter from Yale University saying that he had been accepted to the institution under the Early Action program. On March 6, however, Dang received another letter from Yale explaining that he had accidentally been sent the wrong letter in December. Yale had intended to send the letter of acceptance Dang received in December to Dong Nguyen, a student in Lexington, Kentucky. Indeed, Dang was supposed to receive the letter of denial, which Dong received instead.

"I cannot believe that this actually happened to me and am really angry at Yale for making such a stupid mistake," bemoaned Dang.



Irene Small



Jack McNell

## Are hangtags harmful?

by Michelle Eng

Last week, the New Jersey Department of Health issued a warning to all EBHS seniors concerning their parking hangtags. Scientists at ACME laboratories have discovered that the hangtags cause athlete's foot. Head scientist Pal Agilam explained his discovery: "A chemical reaction occurs when the sun's rays penetrate the plastic coating of the permit, producing toxic chemicals, which greatly increase the humidity in an enclosed

area, such as a car."

Dr. Agilam's findings have caused a sudden panic in the local area. Hospitals and podiatrists' offices have been flooded with frantic calls. Angry parents and teenagers have also attacked the Board of Education for its failure to investigate the problem. Said East Brunswick resident Norma Jean-Patrick, "The entire town is in an uproar over this. I can't believe that the Board [of Education] did not check to see if the parking per-

mits were safe."

As of Monday, April 12, all parking permits will no longer be valid. Instead, seniors will be issued a stuffed bear, which will be attached to the window via suction cups.

If any senior has been exposed to a hangtag for more than an hour and has not yet been checked for athlete's foot, he/she should report to the nearest clinic or call 1-800-555-HELP for further instructions.

## Point and Counterpoint: Out-to-Lunch

### Ms. Thibodeau and Ms. Mangino brawl

by Que-Chi Tran

Several students who were leaving for home late on the afternoon of March 23 witnessed an automobile accident between physical education teacher Ms. Debra Mangino and dance teacher Ms. Laura Thibodeau in the faculty parking lot of EBHS.

*"They started punching each other."*

The students recalled seeing Ms. Mangino backing out of the parking lot with her husband in the passenger seat. Ms. Thibodeau was driving by when her car was hit in the side. The women climbed out of their cars and started disputing the incident.

"The teachers are known to be very close so it shocked me when they started punching each other," said senior Swati Dutta Roy.

The screaming attracted the school police officer, Mr. Bruce Johnson, who separated and handcuffed both women before putting them in his car. Mr. Mangino, who suffered a mild

concussion, was quickly taken by paramedics to Saint Peter's Medical Center, where he was kept overnight for observation.

Witnesses insist that it was difficult to determine who was to blame for the incident. The administration will not comment on the investigation of the accident, but reassures students and faculty that such incidents have never occurred in the past and will not occur again.

Senior Soundhari Balaguru said, "For someone who dances so gracefully she (Mrs. Thibodeau) sure has a nice left hook."

"Ms. Mangino's hours training the cheerleading squad really developed her voice. We heard her even though we were hiding

*"She sure has a nice left hook."*

by the school," added Swati.

"I just don't want to ever be caught with either of them when they're mad," said junior Ivy Yeh, who appeared dazed by the whole experience.

## THE CLARION

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## Students Voice Their Opinions: Prom Survey '93

by Judy Tsai

In light of the new democratic era, and because we are suffering from an acute case of prom fever, *The Clarion* has conducted an informal poll to determine the Class of '93's favorite prom theme, prom song, and prom colors.

According to this survey, which was recently conducted in various senior English classes, the favored prom song this year is the theme song from Disney's recent movie "Beauty and the Beast." Following close behind were Whitesnake's heartfelt "Love Bites", Mozart's classic "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik", and U2's resolute "With or Without You."

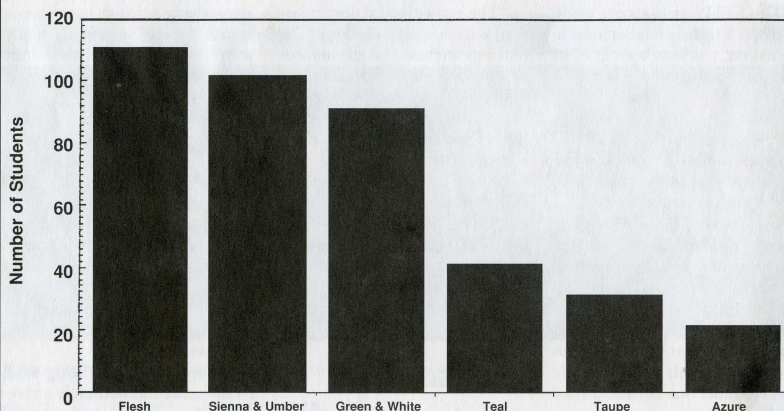
The survey also ascertained the top prom themes which are (in the following order): "We Remember Khomeini"; "Punky Funk"; and

"Found a Date Last Night at Frank's."

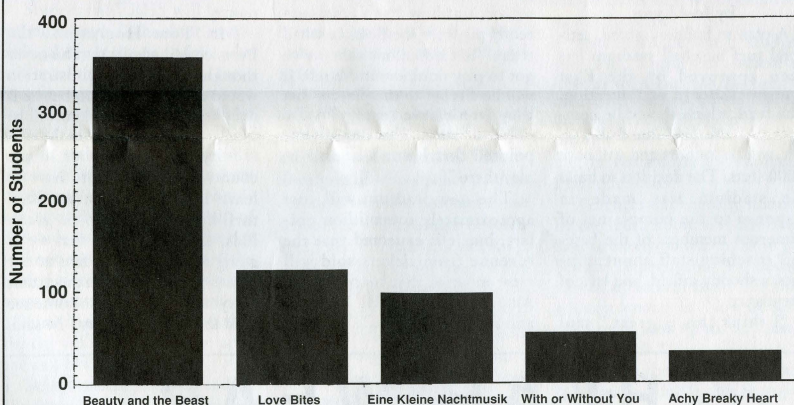
This year's favorite prom colors include selections from a variety of Crayola's traditional, discontinued, and nouveau lines. The most popular color is flesh, but the color combination burnt sienna and raw umber earns points for its retrospective innuendos. EBHS's fight colors, green and white, are also strong in the picking.

While the Student Council makes the final selections in all these categories, Emmanuel King said, "I'm glad we were given the opportunity to voice our selections in a more dynamic way this year. I know a lot of my friends were unhappy with last year's choices." For the sake of the students, perhaps the Student Council will take this informal survey under advisement.

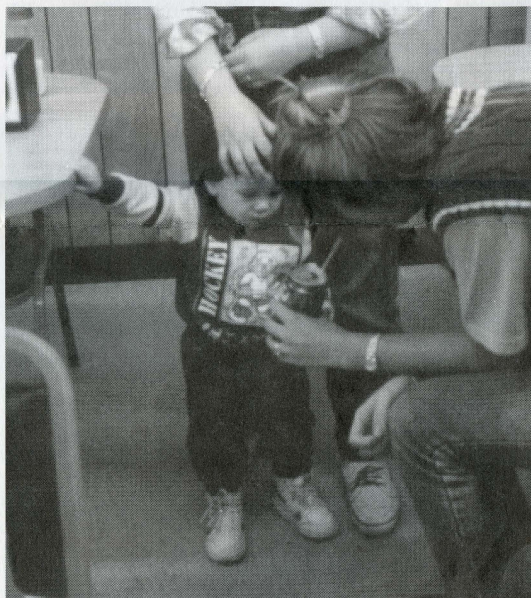
### Favorite Prom Colors



### Favorite Prom Songs



## EBHS's own Doogie Howser



Danny Donner

Timmy Watkins will be the youngest member of our student body. He will be enrolling next year as a sophomore.

## Drug dealers at EBHS: Student exposé reveals all

by Stephanie Knox

If you've frequented the hallowed green and white halls of EBHS, you've surely seen senior Matt Franke equipped with either

*"I could never use it."*

his camera or video camera, actively taking footage for the senior variety slideshow. Matt's filming recently got him into a situation he could have never imagined.

On February 22, Matt stayed after school to pick up footage of extracurricular activities. At approximately 4:00 he proceeded to the parking lot. Thinking the parking lot scene a good one to tape, he kept his camera on and walked out to the range. From afar, Matt

spotted two solitary figures engaged in conversation.

Matt reflected, "I thought it would be perfect footage for the variety show. Then I realized that I could never use it!" As Matt got closer to the two people to tape a close-up conversation, he discovered that two of his peers were engaged in a drug transaction.

Matt stood filming for about three minutes. Then, to his horror, the two students, whose names have not been released, turned towards him. Matt said, "Luckily, I wasn't standing too close to them, and my car wasn't far from where I was standing. I took off!"

Matt drove straight to the EB police department to turn in the tape. The police took it and will conduct their own investigation.

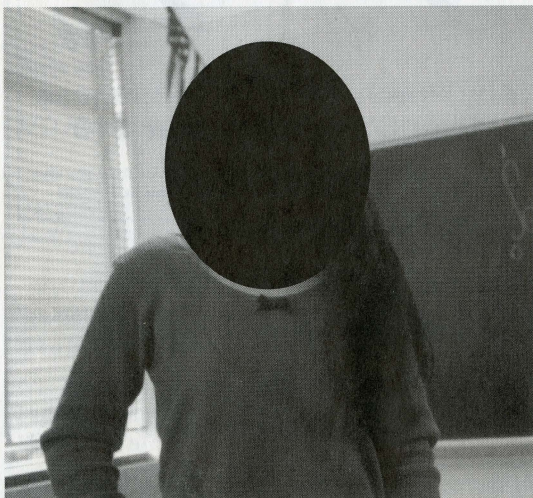
They would not disclose any other information to us, except that the videotape is inadmissible as evidence. Matt also relayed his experience to the high school administration, which is monitoring the involved parties.

Since that day, Matt has received numerous threatening phone calls, and his tires were slashed once. Matt said, "It's a little scary; both the people making the calls know that they're already in trouble and are more scared

*His tires were slashed once.*

than I am."

Matt continues to collect footage for the variety show, but now tries to do it during school hours.



Kelly Karpenet

The *Clarion*, out of respect for the student's privacy, has blocked out the drug dealer's face.



# EBHS is no longer #1

by Swati Dutta Roy

The EBHS girls soccer team, formerly ranked number one in the nation, was knocked out of its first place position on March 27, 1993, due to a "crazy allegation," according to girls coach Brian Merrigan.

James Shiffle of *USA Today*, the national newspaper that ranks high school athletic teams nationally, called Coach Merrigan on the morning of March 27 and told him that his team had lost its standing as the top team in the nation.

"I was in shock. I thought it was a practical joke or something, but I realized that it wasn't. This guy was for real, and we really aren't number one anymore," said Coach Merrigan.

The reason for the change in the ranking of the soccer teams was the complaint of the Fridge High School girls soccer team in Crooked Creek, Alaska. The team said that it had had more wins than the EBHS team and was being discriminated against because Alaska is not part of the continental

United States.

"The accusation [of discrimination] is completely ridiculous. The rankings are based on the number of wins and performance on the field, not on where you're from. Just because no Alaskan teams have ever been in the top ten doesn't mean that they are being discriminated against; it just means that they are not good enough," said Coach Merrigan.

EBHS plans on conducting an investigation into the validity of the claims of the Fridge High School team.

## "[wasn't] a practical joke"

"It [the investigation] is something that *USA Today* should have done, and I was surprised that the agency just gave up the top spot without completely verifying the claims of the Alaskan team and without giving us any notice. I

suspect that there may [have been] some shady dealings in reference to this sudden switch. If [there were], a lawsuit will definitely ensue," said Athletic Director Frank Noppenberger.

Until the investigation is finished, the fact must be faced that EB is no longer number one. Coach Merrigan said, "I know the girls will be heartbroken when they hear the news. After all their hard work this season, this is just a tragedy... I don't know how I am going to tell them." Mr. Merrigan agreed to let the *Clarion* print the information before he personally addressed the team.

Principal Charles King said, "This event was definitely a travesty... You just don't expect travesties like this to occur. This devastating event has affected not only the girls [soccer] team, but the entire EB athletic program, as well as the entire school. Our hearts go out to the girls, and we hope that the investigation tells the entire country what we already know--the Bears are *always* number one."



Jing Qi

Coach Merrigan will soon have to face his team and tell them the grim news.



Sally Sanderman

Unfortunately, Manuel Nguyen is camera shy and would not allow the *Clarion* to get a close up shot.

## Baseball dome to be installed at EBHS

by Joel Lynn

A plan to build a lighted, artificial turf baseball stadium has been approved by the East Brunswick Board of Education. The field, which should be completed by the 1997 baseball season, will be indoors and will have 3,000 seats. The decision to build the stadium was made in response to the complaints of numerous members of the baseball coaching staff about rain-outs, a shoddy infield, and lack of attendance.

"I think this is great," said

senior Matthew Roth who currently plays for the Bears baseball team. "It's ridiculous that we've got to play outdoors in March. It will be a relief to the players that they won't have to play in the cold and rain. I'm just disappointed that I won't be able to play there."

The new stadium will cost approximately five million dollars, but it is expected that the revenue from tickets sold will raise most of that money back. Also, the team will have an annual candy bar sale to raise

money.

Mr. Tom Hockenjos, the Bears coach, admits that he never thought that the administration would agree to the plan, but he is delighted that the stadium will be built. "We're going to have a facility like none other in the county. We're going to have to learn how to play on artificial turf, but it's going to be great. Plus, the best part is that we're going to have a lot of fans at our games now. I would expect that everyone would want to come see us in that type of facility," he said.

## Athlete of the Issue

by Evan Bauman  
and Sanjay Hebbar

Not many high schools are blessed with the type of once-in-a-lifetime talent that has entered EBHS this year. Born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, Manuel Nguyen displayed his incredible skills for three years at Jack Tripper High School in Montreal. Now he brings his awesome repertoire down south.

What is meant by awesome? How about a .911 lifetime batting average, 232 home runs, 1000 r.b.i., and a 0.03 E.R.A. as a pitcher allowing only one run in three years. These stats are compounded with his superb defensive ability. His high school coach and mentor, Sandy Sanchez, said about Manuel, "In my 45 years as a coach of baseball on all levels, this is the best player by far that I have ever met."

Besides excelling on the field, Manuel has not let his success hurt his academics. In fact, he compiled the highest cumulative G.P.A. ever in the province of Quebec (a 4.82). He has already been contacted by and is hoping to attend McGill University (Montreal) this fall where he will continue his baseball career under the tutelage of world renowned coach, Hans Geriknov. Following college, he hopes to be-

come a professional baseball player for his favorite team, the Montreal Expos.

However, before he looks ahead to college, Nguyen will surely make many contributions to the EBHS squad. According to Coach Tom Hockenjos, "This is the most exciting player that I've ever witnessed play and to have him as part of our team will be a real treat." As far as his thoughts on the team's performance with Manuel aboard, Hockenjos claimed, "I can't promise that we will win all of the post-season tournaments but our improvement will be extraordinary this season."

The present members of the baseball team had mixed feelings about the awesome addition. Senior Brandon Hochman said, "I welcome Manuel with open arms. As far as him getting all of the attention, it comes with the game."

Senior Joel Lynn stated, "I just hope that he is able to earn all of the recognition that he [is] getting."

In reaction to all of the media attention that he's receiving, Manuel stated, "I'm not used to all of this, man. I've come to this new school and to me the team always comes first."

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